

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes May 4, 2010**

The Edgefield County Council held its regular monthly meeting at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield.

#### **Members present**

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman  
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman  
Rodney Ashcraft, Councilman  
Genia Blackwell, Councilwoman  
Norman Dorn, Councilman

#### **Others present**

Alton Brown, County Administrator  
Michael S. Medlock, County Attorney  
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council  
and others as per list attached

#### **Absent**

Lynn Strom, Finance Manager

Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and Attorney Medlock gave the invocation, after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### **Minutes**

Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve the April 6, 2010 Minutes of the Regular County Council meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft to approve the April 20<sup>th</sup> Minutes of the Called Meeting of Council. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Reports**

No comments other than the chairman bringing to the attention of council the letter of resignation of Tommy Stone from the Transportation Committee and the *Building Safety Month Proclamation*.

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes May 4, 2010**

#### **Public Hearings**

**Public hearings were held to receive written and/or oral comments on the following ordinances:**

**Ordinance No. 09-10-620**“An Ordinance Providing for the FY 2010-11 General Operating Budget, and Establishing Ancillary Budgets for Debt Service, E-911 Administration, Solid Waste Disposal, Victims’ Bill of Rights, Emergency Medical Services, Countywide Recreation, and Road Maintenance.”

**No comments, written or oral.**

**Ordinance No. 09-10-621**, “An Ordinance Authorizing an Amendment to that Certain Multi-County Park Agreement, Dated July 15, 1997, as Subsequently Amended, Governing a Joint County Industrial and Business Park by and between Aiken County, South Carolina, and Edgefield County, South Carolina, to Authorize the Expansion of the Boundaries of the Park; and Other Matters Thereto Related”

**No comments, written or oral.**

#### **Ordinances**

Second reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-620, “An Ordinance Providing for the FY 2010-11 General Operating Budget, and Establishing Ancillary Budgets for Debt Service, E-911 Administration, Solid Waste Disposal, Victims’ Bill of Rights, Emergency Medical Services, Countywide Recreation, and Road Maintenance.”

**Motion made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell, to amend Ordinance No. 09-10-620 to include proposed budget changes to the ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-620, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

Second reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-621, “An Ordinance Authorizing an Amendment to that Certain Multi-County Park Agreement, Dated July 15, 1997, as Subsequently Amended, Governing a Joint County Industrial and Business Park by and between Aiken County, South Carolina, and Edgefield County, South Carolina, to Authorize the Expansion of the Boundaries of the Park; and Other Matters Thereto Related”

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve Ordinance No. 09-10-621. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes May 4, 2010**

First reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-622, “An Ordinance to Define Cruelty to Animals, to Provide for Removal of Cruelly Treated Animals, to Provide for Judicial Review of Any Removal, to Provide for Conditions that Must Be Met in Order to Remove an Animal, and to Provide for Disposition of an Animal When the Cruel Treatment is not Abated or Corrected.”

**Motion was made by Councilman Ashcraft, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-622. Motion was opposed (3 nays) by Chairman Kneece, Councilmen Bright and Dorn; therefore, first reading was not approved. Councilman Ashcraft stated that this ordinance is repeating state law, some of it.**

First reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-623, “An Ordinance Amending the Procedures to be Followed by the Edgefield County Board of Assessment Appeals to Specify that the Board Shall Follow Those Procedures Set Forth in Section 12-60-2530, SC Code of Laws (1976), As Amending.)”

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-623. Motion carried unanimously.**

First reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-624, “An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Land Development and Zoning Regulations to Create a Special Development District Entitled “Planned Development District” to Provide a Mechanism for the Planning Commission, County Council and an Applicant to Agree on the Scope of a Proposed Development.”

**Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 09-10-624. Motion carried unanimously**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

Consideration of Resolution No. 09-10-319, “A Resolution Providing for an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Edgefield and McCormick Counties, Whereby the Two Counties will Jointly Utilize Edgefield County’s Convenience Center Located at the Intersection US Highway 378 and S-19-67.”

**Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve Resolution No. 09-10-319. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes May 4, 2010**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Janitorial**

Southern National Services (Edgefield)	\$74,508
American Facility Services (present contract)	\$78,505
<b>(FY 09-10: \$75,790)</b>	

**Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to accept the low bid of \$74,508 submitted by Southern National Services for janitorial services. Motion carried unanimously.**

##### **Grounds**

Dorn Landscaping (Edgefield)	\$22,350
Curb Appeal Lawncare (Edgefield)	\$28,835
<b>(FY 09-10: \$10,900)</b>	

**Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Chairman Kneece to accept the \$22,350 bid submitted by Dorn Landscaping for grounds maintenance. Motion carried unanimously.**

##### **Pest Control**

David Parker Exterminating (Johnston)	\$4,500
<b>(FY 09-10: \$3,600) (09-10 did not include sheriff's office or the maintenance shop)</b>	

Terminix Service, Inc. (Columbia)	\$4,440
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**The Pest Control contract is a re-bid. The first bids received did not include sheriff's office or the maintenance shop.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to accept the \$4,500 bid submitted by David Parker Exterminating for pest control. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Concession Trailer**

A committee was appointed at the April 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting (Councilmen Ashcraft and Dorn, Recreation Director Nick Wates) to meet and hopefully find a solution concerning the concession trailer at the recreation park. Debra Barley was asked to attend the April 6th meeting. Ms. Barley operates concessions at the ballgames. A report was submitted to council by the recreation director. Consensus of the meeting was to continue to operate as currently being done and have Ms. Barley turn in a monthly financial statement showing all of the expenses and revenues for the concessions at the county park. Councilman Ashcraft did state that Ms. Barley commented they were working toward certain projects. Considering that the county is liable for whatever may happen at the concession stand he feels the county does have

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes May 4, 2010**

a duty to understand exactly how this is profiting us. If there is a larger potential for this stand, then we should make sure whatever it is bringing in it is put back into the park. There is no paper work on any of it so far but for now Mr. Ashcraft stated he is “happy” with revenues and expenses – don’t want to ask for everything right away. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to accept the committee’s report on the concession stand at the county park. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **New Business**

Rev. Alex Pope, Mt. Canaan Association Moderator, addressed council concerning the accusations surrounding the county park. He explained how the park came to be in existence. It is used for recreational purposes for all citizens and for the betterment of the community. The accusations are going forward from the community that funding has been handled by the Mt. Canaan Baptist Association. There has been in the years of the existence of Bettis Academy and the Mt. Canaan Association, no funds from the taxpayers of Edgefield County that actually went into the treasure of the Mt. Canaan Association. Rev. Pope wanted to make it very clear to the council and to this community that the accusations that are going forth, that Mt. Canaan Association has received funds and number two has misappropriated funds needs to be corrected.

Now, I am not asking council to correct it but I am asking that council put it on record that the Mt. Canaan Association has not received one dime in its present name of Mt. Canaan Association from any taxpayers of Edgefield County or any other county.

There are other accusations that we are receiving funds from the concession stand. We have not purchased the concession stand and we have no party in the purchase of a concession stand so any information that might be misleading to the council or to the community relevant to the concession stand and the Mt. Canaan Association we would like to have it corrected. We would like council’s support in this endeavor.

Chairman Kneece stated that he feels it has been misinterpreted as to money being paid to Mt. Canaan Association – that to his knowledge this has never happened. The only thing that may have been misconstrued is that the money from the concession stand was to go into buying playground equipment for the park. Don’t know that this has been done.

Rev. Pope wanted to point out that in the lease agreement between Edgefield County and Mt. Canaan Association, Inc., that it is not Mt. Canaan Baptist Association any longer. “The lease states what Edgefield County would be responsible to do: construct baseball fields, bathroom facilities, water lines, walking track, bleachers,

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes**

**May 4, 2010**

pay water and electric costs, be responsible for cleanliness and maintenance, and inspection and safe operation of park facilities that the county constructed. I am not sure Edgefield County has done any thing beyond those measures, so to make the accusation that we are receiving funds there for equipment and things of that nature is totally inaccurate. So, for the council's sake and those present, I want to be on record that Mt. Canaan has not received a dime. And, to name Mr. Bright as being the person who is spearheading getting the money – Mr. Bright, can you help me out as to where the money went?" "It went to the park." Mr. Bright stated that nobody has ever indicated that Mt. Canaan Association received any money. I have never known any money to come to Mt. Canaan Association...never asked for any. In fact, Mt. Canaan Association paid the water and light bill up until here recently.

Rev. Pope: "One of the other concerns that I have as the past moderator, we have been, ever since the park has been constructed and made the lease agreement with Edgefield County, drawing water from the lake that is there. It was agreed upon by the association to let the water be drawn from the lake and that is a mutual understanding but when I hear things and when the body is hearing things relevant to getting money and misappropriating money and we are not even charging the county for the water that is being drawn from our lake then it raises a lot of questions."

Chairman Kneece stated that he felt a lot of that is just idle talk. "I know nothing has been done wrong and I feel that Edgefield County has done its part in constructing everything that has been needed. Anything from now on I hope they will get along and do the same thing. I want to go on record making the motion that everything will be very friendly and above board with Mt. Canaan. Motion seconded by Councilman Dorn and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Ashcraft: "I definitely don't hope that nefarious rumors would cause our water bill to go up."

### **Board appointments /Fire Board / GLEAMNS**

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to appoint Joe Prince (Northside Volunteer Fire Department) to serve on the Edgefield County Fire Board. Mr. Prince will fill the vacancy created by the death of Bill Forrest.

Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to appoint James Bibbs to the GLEAMNS board, representing the "poor sector." Motion carried unanimously.

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Minutes  
May 4, 2010**

Motion was made by Councilman Ashcraft, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to appoint Andrew Pride, Jr. to serve another two year term on the GLEAMNS board, representing the “private sector.” Motion carried unanimously.

The appointments of James Bibbs and Andrew Pride were recommended to the council by GLEAMNS.

Councilman Dorn asked for the floor briefly to speak on the behalf of Piedmont Tech. His thoughts were if surrounding counties could support Piedmont Tech financially, why could Edgefield County not do the same. Chairman Kneece stated he had spoken with Dr. Brooks (Pres., Piedmont Tech) and they agreed the school could remain open with the funds Edgefield County appropriated. Hopefully next year things will be better and the county can increase the funding (maybe by millage, as other counties). Dr. Brooks hopes funding can be increased from this year and realizes it will not be the requested amount of \$149,000.

Mike Reed addressed council concerning roofing of the Calliham building. Seven bids were received after council agenda books had been delivered to council members. Mr. Reed had to determine all were qualified bidders. The lowest bidder, R. W. Nunnery (Summerton, SC) did not submit references and council asked Mr. Reed to obtain references from Nunnery and bring to council at the May 18<sup>th</sup> work session.

**No guests.**

**Claims approved as follows:**

**A. PAYROLL: 3/22/10 thru 4/4/10**

Regular.....\$225,753.21

**PAYROLL: 4/5/10 thru 4/18/10**

Regular.....\$228,791.49

**PAYROLL: 4/19/10 thru 5/2/10**

Regular.....\$219,476.80

**B. General Operating.....\$650,989.90**

**No executive session.**

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**  
**May 4, 2010**

There being no further business, Councilman Dorn made the motion to adjourn. A budget work session is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P. M., and the next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. The work session and the regular meeting will be held in the council chambers.

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C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

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Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

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Rodney Ashcraft, Councilman

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Regenia Blackwell, Councilwoman

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Norman Dorn, Councilman

**ATTEST**

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Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

